

a mixture of these oxides or a mixed oxide of these elements in which zinc may also be present, with at least one palladium compound, subsequently carrying out reduction at a temperature of 300-600°C and additionally applying at least one alkali metal compound and, optionally, at least one promoter before or after the reduction.

Claim 2 (amended) A catalyst of claim 1 which comprises at least one potassium compound.

Claim 3 (amended) A catalyst of claim 1 which additionally comprises at least one member of the group consisting of Au, Ba, Cd and their compounds as promoter.

Claim 4 (amended) A catalyst of claim 1, wherein the reducible support is TiO_2 .

Claim 5 (amended) A catalyst of claim 1, wherein the reduction is carried out for 1 minute to 24 hours.

Claim 6 (amended) A catalyst of claim 1, wherein the reduction is carried out using gaseous or vaporizable reducing agents.

Claim 7 (amended) A catalyst of claim 1, wherein the reducing agent for the reduction is at least one member selected

from the group consisting of H_2 , CO, ethylene, NH_3 , formaldehyde, methanol, hydrocarbons and mixtures of these reducing agents with inert gases.

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Claim 8 (amended) A process for producing a catalyst of claim 1, comprising loading the porous support, which comprises a reducible metal oxide of elements of groups IIIB, IVB, V, VIB of the Periodic Table of the Elements or ZnO or comprises a mixture of these oxides or a mixed oxide of these elements in which zinc may also be present, with at least one palladium compound, subsequently carrying out reduction at a temperature of 300-600°C and additionally applying at least one alkali metal compound and, optionally, at least one promoter before or after the reduction.

Claim 9 (amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the catalyst comprises at least one potassium compound.

Claim 10 (amended) The process of claim 8 wherein the catalyst additionally comprises at least one member of the group consisting of Au, Ba, Cd and their compounds as promoters.

Claim 11 (amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the reducible support is TiO_2 .

Claim 12 (amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the reduction is carried out from 1 minute to 24 hours.

Claim 13 (amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the reduction is carried out using gaseous or vaporizable reducing agents.

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Claim 14 (amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the reducing agent for the reduction is at least one member selected from the group consisting of H₂, CO, ethylene, NH₃, formaldehyde, methanol, hydrocarbons and mixtures of these reducing agents with inert gases.


Cancel claim 15 and add the following claim.

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--16. In a process for the preparation of vinyl acetate from the gaseous phase reaction of ethylene, acetic acid and oxygen or oxygen containing gas, the improvement comprising using as catalyst the catalyst of claim 1.--

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted to insert reference to the PCT application and to conform the claims to the American practice.

Respectfully submitted,
BIERMAN, MUSERLIAN AND LUCAS


Charles A. Muserlian, #19,683
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Tel. # (212) 661-8000

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